News Release



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NOVEMBER 14, 2008 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas' Homeless Stand Down Scheduled for November 18

DALLAS – VA North Texas Health Care System, Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas, The Bridge, Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, and City of Dallas have partnered together for the homeless stand down event this year being held November 18 at THE BRIDGE Homeless Assistance Center located at 1818 Corsicana St. in Dallas, 1:30-5:30 p.m.

This annual stand down event assists homeless individuals to access health care, job assistance, and housing information. Hundreds of homeless will also be provided a broad range of necessities including food, clothing, medical to include flu shots, legal, and mental health assistance, job counseling and referral, and most importantly, companionship and camaraderie. It is a time for the community to connect with the homeless population and address this crisis that affects each and every town, city, and state in this country. "This stand down event benefits our community's homeless," said Tammy Wood, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program Manager at VA North Texas Health Care System. It's a 'hand-up not a hand-out' for homeless veterans and civilians throughout the Dallas Metroplex."

Hundreds of caring volunteers and professionals will give their time and expertise to address the unique needs of the homeless population. Some of the agencies that will participate include job seeker services such as DARS, TVC Employment Services, American GI Forum, Veteran's Industries & Veteran's Benefit Administration-Vocational Rehab, and Urban League. Housing options will be represented by City of Dallas, HUD, DHA, Family Gateway, Housing Crisis Center, Central Dallas Ministries, and Easter Seals. And representatives from Parkland Health Care, Dallas Metrocare Services, ADAPT, ABC Behavioral Health, LifeNet, VA North Texas Health Care System, Mental Health of America, Dallas County Health and Human Services, Child and Family Guidance Center, and peer support groups from APAA, TMHC, and VA will offer health care information.

ADD ONE / ANNUAL HOMELESS STAND DOWN

It is estimated that one-quarter of America's homeless are veterans, and VA North Texas Health Care System provides compensated work therapy, homeless domiciliary and community-based homeless intervention programs all designed to help homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets as well as provide tools and training to transition them from homeless to community living.

For more information regarding the stand down this year, please contact Tammy Wood at 214-467-1864.

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